DEF 12-5 JORDAN

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Embassy should approach GOF along following lines with regard its (Nanteuil's) most recent discussions supersonics with Khammash.

1. USG does not intend subsidize Jordanian purchase MIRAGE. FYI: We are not prepared to increase $15 million credit for Jordan ground force package to permit release of GOJ funds to purchase aircraft from French. END FYI.

2. If Embassy considers appropriate suggest sounding out French on feasibility entering into contingent contract with GOF to sell up to 20 MIRAGE III C's from FAF inventory with clear understanding that if GOJ funds not forthcoming France would not be committed to aircraft delivery. You may point out that this arrangement parallels conditions agreed to by Jordan in US sale of ground force equipment.

3. In event no MIRAGE III C's available for sale from inventory, alternative possibility is French offer sell from new production, again based on availability of GOJ funds. In event GOJ default on payments

Reconfirmed by Rusk

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this alternative presupposes French ability either absorb aircraft from new production in own ~~entry~~ INVENTORY or find alternative foreign customer.

4. French may want consider asking Khammash about current status Unified Arab Command funds and whether he still expects steady and adequate financing from that source.

GP-3.

END

RUSK